Town swears in two new officers, promotes others

The town recently held a ceremony to swear in two new police officers – Officer Bonifacio Perez and Officer Joseph Mooney. Welcome to the department. We also honored Kelly Heany and Joe Babkiewicz for their promotions to sergeant. During the same ceremony we honored officers whose service was above and beyond. Awards included the following:

- **Team Award** This was to honor the Detective Unit for an outstanding burglary investigation that led to an arrest as well as nearly all the property being returned to the owner
- **Community Policing** Awarded an officer who created a bike registration program to help reunite stolen bikes with their owners, one for creating and overseeing a community cleanup for kids who had been in trouble at school and one to an officer who volunteers his time coaching lacrosse to students.
- **Merit Award** to a civilian employee who created an online way to alert SLED that evidence would be coming to them to speed processing times.
- **Team Award** to the department's accreditation team that successfully guided the department through its National Accreditation Process.

The town is very proud of our officers and on behalf of everyone I want to thank them for all they do to keep us safe in our town.

Bobcats continue to make our town proud

It is so exciting to go to a high school football game and see so many fans cheering our young men to victory. Residents from Sun City to all the way to Hilton Head have been making Friday night plans at Bluffton High School. It has been a Cinderella season and will continue this Friday night in Hartsville. Stay tuned to our friends at Bluffton Today, as they have been so supportive of our school in so many ways, but especially with the football team. If you are Facebook fan, make a friend of BT Bobcats. With more than 1,400 friends someone will be keep you up to date if you are unable to make the trip on Friday.

Best of luck to our cheerleading competition team as they head to Greenville this Saturday for a chance to bring home a state title.

Go Bobcats!